

ABSTRACT

A concept-based electronic document viewer system and method for presenting electronic documents (including emails, voice mails, facsimiles and documents identified by the results of an Internet web search engine) input from a source of input electronic documents according to their associated concepts, on a priority directed network (hierarchical) basis, on a user's electronic display screen. A concept recognizer component is configured for recognizing concepts and/or themes associated with content of the documents. A prioritization analyser component is configured for ordering the recognized concepts and/or themes according to priority. A viewer component is configured for presenting on the display a plurality of concept identifiers according to a directed network (hierarchical) configuration based on the priority ordering, wherein each concept identifier represents a concept or theme recognized by the concept recognizer. Leaf nodes are at the bottom of the directed network configuration and each leaf node represents one electronic document. The priority ordering may be according to a user's priorities. Preferably, an input document processing component is configured for outputting a static document map corresponding to the input document. The concept recognizer component preferably comprises a highlighter component configured for identifying key content of the input document on the basis of the document map. The viewer component may display on the electronic display a predetermined amount of key content for a document corresponding to a user-selected leaf node when a cursor operated by a user is positioned in the area of the leaf node. A concept learner component may be provided for creating new knowledge pertaining to the user on the basis of data sensed from the system's environment, for input to a knowledge base of user data.